Loan from Asian Development Bank for Power Projects

1087. SHRI BAIKUNTHA NATH SAHU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had any proposal to set up some power projects in the country with loan assistance from Asian Development Bank;

(b) if so, the total amount of loan to be obtained for the purpose; and

(c) whether the Bank has imposed some new conditions for granting loan; if so, what are the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b) Presently North Madras Thermal Power Project and Unchahar Extension Thermal Power Project involving a total loan amount of $ 310 million are being implemented with financing from ADB.

(c) Discussions are held on a continuing basis regarding project specific as well a sectoral issues with the Bank. There has been no significant change in ADB's approach in lending to power sector in India.

Espionage activities by one Rajinder Singh "King"

1088. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any information to the effect that one Rajinder Singh 'King' of Amritsar is indulging in espionage activities against our country at the behest of a neighbouring country;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for not arresting him so far; and

(c) what action Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c) It will not be in public interest to disclose facts in this regard.

Permission to the Chairman of Hindustan Diamond Company for setting up a New Corporation

1089. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have permitted the Chairman-cum-Managing Director of the Hindustan Diamond Company to set up a similar Corporation; and

(b) if so, what are the details of memorandum and articles of association of the new Corporation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI): (a) and (b) The Chairman-cum-Managing Director of Hindustan Diamond Company Ltd. and certain other persons in their individual capacity have been subscribers to the Memorandum and Articles of Association of a company known as the Diamond and Gem Development Corporation (DGDC). The Chairman-cum-Managing Director of HDCL has reported that the actual promoter of DGDC was the Diamond Development Cooperative Society Ltd., Surat. There is no Central Government share holding or participation in the DGDC. The DGDC is registered under Section 25 of the Indian Companies Act, 1956 and its main objects are reported to include the promotion of industries relating to diamond, precious and semi-precious stones, gems, jewellery etc. The authorised share capital of the company is stated to be Rs. 5 crores. Shri S. N. Sharma is mentioned as the Chairman of the Board of Directors of DGDC.